

**From:** Michael Scaramozzino  
**To:** tom.reilly@ago.state.ma.us@inetgw,microsoftcomment...  
**Date:** 11/20/01 10:41am  
**Subject:** Thanks for standing firm!

Dear Attorneys General,

I just wanted to commend you all on standing firm against the enormous pressure to settle the Microsoft anti-trust case. I only wish the DOJ and other AGs had as much fortitude. Microsoft found ways around previously imposed sanctions and I fear that any type of penalty, short of structural, will simply fail to sufficiently reign them in.

I've been president of a multimedia company since 1987 and I have watched Microsoft imitate and extinguish numerous innovations over the years. They see an innovation in the marketplace and quickly move to kill it, by copying it into their monopolistic Windows operating system. They then use their monopoly to erect sufficient roadblocks to competition so that their version will win out.

Here are just a few examples that come immediately to mind...

Windows itself was an imitation of Macintosh  
Excel was an imitation of Lotus 123  
Word was an imitation of WordPerfect  
Windows Media Player and AVI were imitations of QuickTime  
ActiveX was an imitation of Java  
JScript was an imitation of JavaScript  
MSN was an imitation of AOL  
MS Instant messaging was an imitation of AOL's instant messaging  
Internet Explorer was an imitation of Netscape Navigator  
MS Money was an imitation of Quicken

Even MS-DOS wasn't "innovated" by Microsoft, it was imitated from CPM

I honestly can't think of ANY product that Microsoft invented or innovated by themselves without copying it from some other company first.

In my opinion, the only way to really level the playing field, is to separate the operating system from Microsoft's other product divisions, structurally. Prevent the new system company from colluding with the new applications company and prevent the system company from incorporating stand-alone third-party products into the operating system in the future.

Short of that, it will quickly return to business as usual at Microsoft and innovation & competition will continue to be stifled.

Thanks for standing firm,  
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**CC:** Microsoft ATR